



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**MASSACHUSETTS MAN PLEADS TO TRANSPORTATION  
OF STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLES AND THEFT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono today announced that William Pineo, age 24, of Leominster, Massachusetts, pleaded guilty before United States District Court Judge Joseph DiClerico to an indictment which charged him with three counts of interstate transportation of a stolen motor vehicle and two counts of theft of government property.

The indictment charged Pineo with the interstate transportation of two (2) stolen Ford Crown Victorias and one (1) Ford F-150, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2312, and theft of two (2) government vehicle license plates, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

The evidence against Pineo established that on December 7, 2002, the Federal Protective Service received a report from the Portsmouth, New Hampshire Police Department that a stolen white Ford Crown Victoria, containing a U.S. government license plate (G41 32208), had been recovered in the parking lot of the Hampton Inn, Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Further investigation determined that the Crown Victoria had been stolen from Rizzo Ford, North Providence, Rhode Island, on or around October 22, 2002. The U.S. government license plate (G41 32208) had been reported stolen on October 18, 2002 from a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers vehicle (a Ford F-150 truck) located at Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

After processing the Crown Victoria, members of the Federal Protective Service sent a regional NCIC broadcast regarding the recovery of the motor vehicle and government plate. A response was immediately obtained from Detective Scott Blakeney of the Worcester, Massachusetts Police Department. Blakeney indicated that he had arrested an individual, William Pineo, in August, 1999 for the theft of a Ford Crown Victoria with a U.S. government plate.

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On February 26, 2003, members of the North Providence Police Department received another report of a stolen white Crown Victoria from Rizzo Ford, North Providence, Rhode Island. The vehicle had been reported stolen on February 25, 2003, and contained blue lights, a siren and a working police radio. On March 10, 2003, Detective Scott Blakeney (Worcester, Massachusetts Police Department) contacted members of the Federal Protective Service and indicated that while he was in Leominster, Massachusetts on March 9, 2003, he observed a white Ford Crown Victoria, bearing US government plate J28381.

On March 11, 2003, a member of the Seabrook, New Hampshire Police Department, who had heard a BOLO ("be on the look out") involving the use of a stolen law enforcement vehicle, stopped William Pineo on I-95 (in New Hampshire) heading south toward Massachusetts. Pineo was operating a Ford F-350 pick-up truck which he had just stolen from Portsmouth Ford, Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Upon responding to Portsmouth Ford, members of the Portsmouth, New Hampshire Police Department discovered the white Crown Victoria, which had been reported stolen from Rizzo Ford, North Providence, Rhode Island, on February 25, 2003. Law enforcement also discovered that the Crown Victoria contained license plate J28381, a plate issued to the United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Discovered inside the Crown Victoria were: (1) two Department of Justice INS placards; (2) a parking pass for JFK Federal Building, Boston, Massachusetts; (3) an electronic EZ Pass transponder (issued to INS); and (4) an INS metal notebook (containing INS forms). It was later determined that the license plate (J28381) had been stolen from Starkey Ford, York, Maine, a dealership which services INS vehicles.

After his arrest, Pineo consented to the search of his residence, located in Leominster, MA. During a search of the residence, law enforcement discovered a Ford F-150 pickup truck, which had been stolen by Pineo, in the apartment complex parking lot. Law enforcement discovered that the F-150 had been stolen by Pineo from Portsmouth Ford. Located inside the Ford F-150 were items, including an INS first aid kit, which had previously been stolen from Starkey Ford, York, Maine.

Pineo is scheduled to be sentenced on October 17, 2003. The transportation of a stolen motor vehicle in interstate commerce is punishable by up to a ten year term of imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Terry L. Ollila and was investigated by the Criminal Investigations Division of the Federal Protective Service and the Bedford, New Hampshire, Resident Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigations.